

H A L S T E A D U R B A N D I S T R I C T.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

J.S. RANSON M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1949.SECTION A - Statistics and Social Conditions of the area.

Area in acres 1172.
 Population (Registrar General's estimate)... 6060.
 Number of inhabited houses according to the
 Rate Books (end of 1949) 1998.
 Ratable Value £29,824.
 Sum represented by a penny rate.....£113. 7s. 10d.

Extracts from vital statistics:-

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live births:			
Legitimate.	77.	39.	38.
Illegitimate	5.	2.	3.
Still births.	4.	1.	3.
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..	13.5.		
Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	46.5.		
Deaths (Registrar General's estimate).....	93.		
Death rate per 1,000 resident population	15.3.		
" " (corrected by comparability figure of 0.82.)	12.5.		
Death rate of infants per 1,000 live births.....	36.5.		
Deaths of legitimate infants per 1,000			
legitimate live births	12.9.		
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000			
illegitimate live births	400		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	9.		
Deaths from Whooping cough (all ages)	0.		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0.		
Deaths from diarrhoea (under two years of age)	0.		



Deaths at the various age groups during 1949
(registered and transferred.)

<u>Age group.</u>	<u>Number of deaths.</u>
Under one year	3
1 and under 2 years.....	1
2 and under 5 years.....	-
5 and under 15 years.....	-
15 and under 25 years	-
25 and under 35 years.....	3
35 and under 45 years	1
45 and under 55 years.....	9
55 and under 65 years.....	5
65 and under 75 years	19
75 and upwards.....	51
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TOTAL.	92
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SECTION B. health Services of the Area.

A. Public Health Officers.

1. J.S. Ranson M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.
2. S.N. Pycroft. M.I.M.C.E., M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

B. There have been no changes in the following services during the year:-

1. Laboratory Services.
2. Ambulance Services.
3. Nursing in the home.
4. Clinics and treatment centres.
5. Hospitals.

SECTION C - Sanitary circumstances of the area.

Inspections made during the year 1949.

Number of inspections made and re-inspections	425
Nuisances detected	211
Nuisances Abated	166
Informal notices served	106
Statutory notices served	12

Informal notices complied with 82
Statutory notices complied with 19

Water supply.

Samples of water from the mains supply submitted to chemical and bacteriological examination during the year 3
(Reports on the 3 samples were satisfactory.)

Particulars of water supplies

No. of houses supplied from mains	1995
No. of persons therein.....	6055
No. of houses supplied from standpipes.....	3
No. of persons therein	5

Alterations were made at the Parsonage Street Pumping Station, including the installation of an electrically driven submersible pump, mainly with the object of saving labour costs on pumping.

In the event, this station was placed under a very severe strain owing to the drought conditions and the new works were completed in June, just in time to relieve the situation.

Since that time practically all the town's supply has been taken from this station (about 200,000 gallons daily).

These alterations were not intended to form a permanent or long term means of supplying the town with water; this question will probably remain to be answered when the Rural District Council's scheme is more advanced.

The boosted supply to the Mitchell Avenue and Park Field Area has continued throughout the year with a few minor interruptions in the service due to faults in the automatic electric controls. This arrangement is also of a temporary nature, designed to provide a supply for the time being to the higher parts of the Mitchell Avenue Estate and to the Council's new housing estate, which could not have been supplied by gravitational means from the storage tanks. The Council are proposing at some near date to extend the boosted supply to the poorly supplied houses at the top of Mount Hill.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewerage disposal works continue to prove unsatisfactory. Towards the end of the year alumino-ferric was being added to the sewage in an effort to reduce the amount of the suspended solids in the final effluent, but it is too early to estimate its effectiveness.

The two defective sprinklers were repaired during the year and the roof of the engine house has been re-tiled.

In March the surface water drainage scheme was approved by the Council and submitted to the Ministry of Health; no decision had been given by the end of the year.

With the exception of one or two sections where it lay under crops, the main outfall sewer from the town to the disposal works was dragged and new openings provided to facilitate a repetition of this work in the future. The storm overflow was improved. Both of these measures should help to prevent flooding in the event of heavy storms.

SECTION D. Housing.

The building of houses on the new estate has progressed and 26 houses have been completed and occupied during the year. Progress has also been made towards the erection of 14 dwellings for aged

persons in Parsonage Street.

No note-worthy work has been carried out toward the re-construction of houses in the older parts of the town.

The large number of small and unsatisfactory properties remains the same, a problem to be dealt with by the formation of Clearance Areas of various dimensions. As such action is not at the present time permitted, extensive re-construction of individual houses is perhaps not advisable until an area can be dealt with as a whole.

The demand for houses of the more unsatisfactory type remains high and their maintenance in as satisfactory state of repair as possible is imperative.

Many of the Council's houses are occupied by one or two persons only and by the selection of such persons for tenancies of the new bungalows now being erected the problem of housing younger families will be helped. The owning of small dwellings by the Council is most desirable and those that are at present being erected should prove the demand and encourage the Council to proceed with the building of more bungalows,

INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects.....	103
No. of inspections made for the purpose.....	225
No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	1
No. of dwelling houses found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	102
No. of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or it's Officers.....	82
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which statutory Notices were served requiring repairs.....	11
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after services of formal notices.....	10
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	1
No. of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	NIL
No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	NIL
No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit.....	NIL

SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

No carcasses were condemned during the year.

The following food supplies have been surrendered and condemned during the year.

Meat.	21 tins and 603½ lbs.
Vegetables.	9 tins
Milk.	117 tins
Fish.	191 tins and 188½ lbs.
Miscellaneous.	37 lbs.

SECTION F. - PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The attached table shows that the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was exceptionally low.

Again no case of diphtheria was notified, no case having occurred in the District since 1941.

The immunisation of children against this disease has been

carried out as in former years and the high percentage of children protected has been maintained.

Cases of infectious disease notified during the year.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Measles	15	-	-
Whooping Cough	16	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	-
Infective Jaundice	16	-	-
Scarlet fever	2	-	-
Total	56	-	-

Tuberculosis.

Cases Notified-----

Adults

Pulmonary	.....	Male	2
		Female	1.
Non - Pulmonary	.....	Male	0.
		Female	1
Children Pulmonary	.....	Male	0.
		Female	0.
Non- Pulmonary	.....	Male	0.
		Female	1.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Under one year.	.....	0.
1 and under two years	.....	0.
2 and under five years	.....	0.
5 and under 15 years	.....	0.
15 and under 25 years	.....	0.
25 and under 35 years.	.....	0.
35 and under 45 years.	.....	0.
45 years and over.	.....	1.

Total 1.

SECTION G.

FACTORIES WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

There are 53 of these premises on the register. 22 Inspections were made during the year and only 6 defects were found and remedied.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on Register.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	20	12
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	33	10
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	No. of cases in which defects referred by <u>H.M. Inspector.</u>
Want of cleanliness.	2	2	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	1	1	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences.			-
(a) insufficient	3	3	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-
Totals.	6	6	-

There was one outworker in the District.

This outworker is employed in glove making.

15th August, 1950.

J. E. Hanson.
Medical Officer of Health.

